

Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA) and I called for a meeting of our bipartisan US-China Working Group tomorrow to hear from State Department experts on the situation in Tibet. In the past, I cosponsored congressional gold medals for the Dalai Lama and worked with his staff in Washington for over 20 years. I think the Dalai Lama's approach is non-violent and reasonable. On the eve of the Olympic Games, it would be wise for China to open a dialogue. We want to support human rights of all, with a new focus on Tibet.

China has closed all news coming out of Tibet. That is why we think this special briefing is needed. I think it will help the dozens of members of our bipartisan working group to get ahead of the rapidly changing situation, especially when Congress resumes its session on the 31st.